

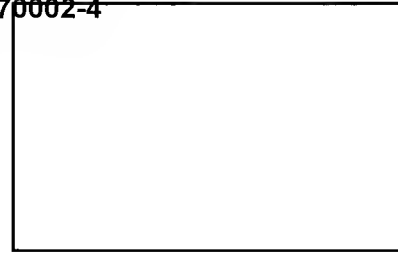


Director of
Central Intelligence

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National Intelligence Daily

Friday
20 April 1979

State Dept. review completed

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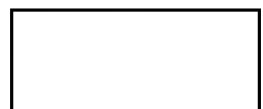
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Overnight Reports 15

The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the *Daily*, will often contain materials that update the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.



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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

Liberia-Guinea

The US Embassy in Monrovia reported yesterday that Liberian President Tolbert may become a "prisoner" of the situation he created by calling in Guinean troops to help quell the rioting in the capital last weekend. According to the Embassy, the civilian population is frightened by the Guineans, whose presence can only further erode whatever confidence remains in Liberia's security forces. The episode also has tarnished the perception of Tolbert by other African heads of state and adversely affected his image as a respected peace-maker.

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Ecuador

The US Embassy in Quito reports that preparations for a return to civilian rule in August are progressing smoothly with legislative elections and the presidential runoff contest scheduled for a week from Sunday. According to the Embassy, populist candidate Jaime Roldos probably will win by at least 10 percentage points over center-right candidate Sixto Duran-Ballen, thereby significantly reducing the possibility of efforts to obtain a Duran victory through fraud. The Embassy also projects that no party will dominate the new Congress and that the successful presidential candidate will need a coalition of at least three parties in order to form a working majority.

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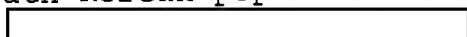
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Cuba - Western Europe

The US Interests Section in Havana reported yesterday that Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca is expected to leave tomorrow for a European tour which will include visits to Austria, Finland, Belgium, and West Germany as well as to Moscow for the May Day festivities. Cables filed yesterday by the US Embassies in Brussels and Bonn indicate, however, that Malmierca's itinerary in Western Europe was less than firm and that at least some of the prospective host states may not receive him. The Interests Section believes that stops by Malmierca in Western Europe would enhance Cuban prestige and its credibility among the Nonaligned States; Malmierca may also be seeking concessional aid and credits and support for Havana's bid for a two-year seat on the UN Security Council. 

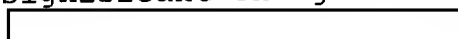
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South Korea - North Korea

Assessing the current hiatus in talks between the two Koreas, the US Embassy in Seoul comments that the North has essentially done a clever job of presenting an inflexible position in conciliatory language, leaving the South with some public relations problems over its insistence that the dialogue not be resumed until Pyongyang's delegates are formally designated as the representatives of "responsible authorities." The Embassy describes the South Korean Government as divided on tactics to be pursued, with some officials privately contending that the South should make substantive proposals regardless of the North's stance on the procedural issue. Even those officials, however, are "very uneasy" about stimulating excessive expectations among the South Korean population on the prospects for the talks. 

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USSR

The two-day session of the Supreme Soviet ended yesterday with no significant change in the composition of the government. 

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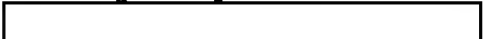


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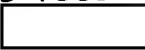
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Thailand

The US Embassy in Bangkok today reports that problems are building up beneath the surface of the relatively quiet campaigning for the national election on Sunday, although Prime Minister Kriangsak's reappointment to that post seems practically assured. The problems include growing inflation, shortages of diesel and aviation fuel, and a potentially large new influx of refugees from Kampuchea. Kriangsak, the Embassy notes, does seem to recognize the troubles and is expected to make substantial changes in his Cabinet, with special emphasis on the ministries dealing with the Thai economy. The new government is likely to pursue foreign policy along current lines. 

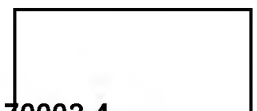
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Egypt

Voters yesterday gave the anticipated overwhelming endorsement to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and to President Sadat's proposed domestic reforms. Final returns are to be announced today and likely will show an approval rating of around 99 percent; voters in several districts, according to Cairo's Middle East News Agency, were 100 percent in support of the government. Western press reports indicate that the turnout was much higher than for similar referenda in recent years and that voter enthusiasm also appeared greater on this occasion. 

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Jamaica-USSR

A Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade official told the US Embassy in Moscow yesterday that, as one result of Prime Minister Manley's recent visit, the USSR has agreed to purchase 50,000 tons of alumina from Jamaica each year through 1984. In return, the Soviets may ship foodstuffs, primarily fish, and industrial raw materials such as cotton and cardboard to Jamaica. Jamaican diplomats in Moscow have asserted that the Soviets were less negative than in the past toward Manley's concept of a New International Economic Order but made no commitment to restructure their aid and trade relations with developing countries; the Embassy believes the USSR will continue to focus its effort on keeping such states' irritations on trade policy directed against the West.

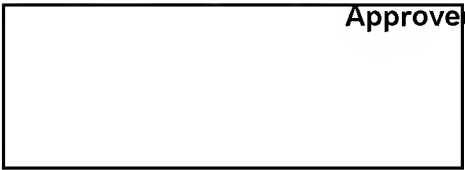
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